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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02860.0767

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Shigeru HOSOE) Group Art Unit: 1731
Serial No.: 10/765,101) Examiner: Jason L. Lazorcik
Filed: January 28, 2004) Confirmation No.: 9703
For: A CONVEYANCE APPARATUS, A)
MANUFACTURING APPARATUS)
OF AN OPTICAL ELEMENT, AND)
A MANUFACTURING METHOD)
OF THE OPTICAL ELEMENT)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated December 11, 2006, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

Group I: Claims 1-17, allegedly drawn to a conveying apparatus;

Group II: Claims 18-32, allegedly drawn to an optical element manufacturing apparatus; and

Group III: Claims 33-35, allegedly drawn to a method of manufacturing an optical element.

Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's characterizations and assertions regarding Applicants' claims and the alleged patentably distinct groups, and Applicants reserve the right to argue the distinctness or lack of distinctness of the claim

groups at a later time. Nonetheless, to expedite prosecution, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, claims 1-17, allegedly drawn to a conveying apparatus.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 4, 2007

By: /David W. Hill/
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